

Class **Diplopoda** de Blainville in Gervais, 1844^{1 2}

Subclass **Penicillata** Latrielle, 1831

Order **Polyxenida** Verhoeff, 1934³ (2 superfamilies)

Superfamily **Polyxenoidea** Lucas, 1940 (3 families)

Family **Hypogexenidae** Schubart, 1947 (1 genus, 1 species)

Family **Lophoproctidae** Silvestri, 1897 (5 genera, 30 species)

Family **Polyxenidae** Lucas, 1840 (19 genera, 47 species)

Superfamily **Synxenoidea** Silvestri, 1923 (1 family)

Family **Synxenidae** Silvestri, 1923 (2 genera, 8 species)

Subclass **Chilognatha** Latrielle, 1802/1803 (2 infraclasses)

Infraclass **Pentazonia** Brandt, 1833 (2 superorders)

Superorder **Limacomorpha** Pocock, 1894 (1 order)

Order **Glomeridesmida** Cook, 1895 (2 families)

Family **Glomeridesmidae** Latzel 1884 (1 genus, 26 species)

Family **Termitodesmidae** Silvestri, 1911 (1 genus, 5 species), **NEW STATUS**⁴

Superorder **Oniscomorpha** Pocock, 1887 (2 orders)

Order **Glomerida** Brandt, 1833 (2 families)

Family **Doderiidae** Silvestri, 1904 (3 genera, 36 species)

Family **Glomeridae** Leach, 1816 (27 genera, 176 species)

Order **Sphaerotheriida** Brandt, 1833⁵ (4 families)

Family **Sphaerotheriidae** C. L. Koch, 1847 (2 genera, 55 species)

Family **Zephroniidae** Gray in Jones, 1843 (14 genera, 140 species)

Family **Procyliosomatidae** Wesener & VandenSpiegel, 2009 (1 genus, 10 species)

Family **Arthrosphaeridae** Jeekel, 1974 (4 genera, 100 Species)

Infraclass **Helminthomorpha** Pocock, 1887 (2 subterclasses)

Subterclass **Colobognatha** Brandt, 1834 (4 orders)

Order **Platydesmida** Cook, 1895 (2 families)

Family **Andrognathidae** Cope, 1869 (12 genera, 32 species)

Family **Platydesmidae** DeSaussure, 1860 (2 genera, 31 species)

Order **Polyzoniida** Cook, 1895 (3 families)

Family **Hirudisomatidae** Silvestri, 1896 (6 genera, 20 species)

Family **Polyzoniidae** Newport, 1844 (6 genera, 22 species)

Family **Siphonotidae** Cook, 1895 (12 genera, 32 species)

Order **Siphonocryptida** Cook, 1895

Family **Siphonocryptidae** Pocock, 1894 (2 genera, 6 species)

Order **Siphonophorida** Newport, 1844 (2 families)

Family **Siphonophoridae** Newport, 1844⁶ (10 genera, 60? species)

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1. **BY** William Shear (for full contact details, see **Contributor name and address** after **References cited**). The title of this contribution should be cited as “Class Diplopoda de Blainville in Gervais, 1844. *In*: Zhang, Z.-Q. (Ed.) Animal biodiversity: An outline of higher-level classification and survey of taxonomic richness”. Recent Diplopoda includes approximately 147 families, 1,868 genera and 7,753 species. The numbers are approximate because there is no up-to-date comprehensive listing of genera and species in this group
 2. With few exceptions, this classification is based on the ones published by Hoffman (1980) and Shelley (2003). Astute critical histories of the development of diplopod classification are provided by both of these authors. Numbers of species and genera are based primarily on Hoffman (1980), but are to be considered estimates only, since a substantial proportion, perhaps a large majority, of milliped species await discovery and description, and neither Hoffman (1980) nor I exhaustively surveyed the literature in search of species, though Hoffman lists almost all genera up to 1978. For genera described after 1978, I made no attempt to track down all names but relied on a subjective estimate. The comments of Rowland Shelley, Henrik Enghoff, Thomas Wesener and Richard Hoffman materially improved this effort, but all errors are the sole responsibility of the author.
 3. Hoffman (1980) listed 6 additional genera of Polyxenida as being of uncertain familial position. Changes from Shelley (2003) are as in Nguyen Duy-Jaquemin & Geoffroy (2003).
 4. The elevation of Termitodesminae from subfamily to family has been suggested many times, most recently by Shelley (2011). Here that formal step is taken.
 5. Classification as in Wesener & VandenSpiegel (2009). While placing the classification on a firmer phylogenetic footing these authors were not able to assign all generic names and did not attempt to estimate species numbers. Genus and species numbers supplied by Wesener (pers. comm., 2011).
 6. Hoffman (1980) did not estimate species numbers. My number is an estimate based on an impression of the literature and on Jeekel (2001). Hoffman (1980) characterized the family as a “taxonomist’s nightmare.”

Family **Siphonorhinidae** Cook, 1895 (4 genera, 10 species)
 Subterclass **Eugnatha** Attems, 1898 (3 superorders)
 Superorder **Juliformia** Attems, 1926 (3 orders)
 Order **Julida** Brandt, 1833 (5 superfamilies)
 Superfamily **Blaniuloidea** C. L. Koch, 1847 (4 families)
 Family **Blaniulidae** C. L. Koch, 1847 (19 genera, 46 species)
 Family **Galliobatidae** Brolemann, 1921 (1 genus, 1 species)
 Family **Okeanobatidae** Verhoeff, 1942 (2 genera, 4 species)
 Family **Zosteractinidae** Loomis, 1943 (2 genera, 2 species)
 Superfamily **Juloidea** Leach, 1814 (4 families)
 Family **Julidae** Leach, 1814⁷ (88 genera, 500? species)
 Family **Rhopaloiulidae** Attems, 1926 (1 genus, 1 species)
 Family **Trichoblaniulidae** Verhoeff, 1911 (1 genus, 4 species)
 Family **Trichonemasomatidae** Enghoff, 1991 (1 genus, 1 species)
 Superfamily **Nemasomatoidea** Bollman, 1893 (5 families)
 Family **Chelojulidae** Enghoff, 1991 (1 genus, 1 species)
 Family **Nemasomatidae** Bollman, 1893 (7 genera, 22 species)
 Family **Pseudonemasomatidae** Enghoff, 1991 (1 genus, 1 species)
 Family **Telsonemasomatidae** Enghoff, 1991 (1 genus, 1 species)
 Superfamily **Paeromopodoidea** Cook, 1895 (2 families)
 Family **Aprosphylosomatidae** Hoffman, 1961 (1 genus, 1 species)
 Family **Paeromopodidae** Cook, 1895 (2 genera, 16 species)
 Superfamily **Parajuloidea** Bollman, 1893 (2 families)
 Family **Mongoliulidae** Pocock, 1903 (8 genera, 23 species)
 Family **Parajulidae** Bollman, 1893⁸ (27 genera, 115 species)
 Order **Spirobolida** Cook, 1895⁹ (2 suborders)
 Suborder **Spirobolidea** Cook, 1895 (11 families)
 Family **Allopocockiidae** Keeton, 1960 (3 genera, 7 species)
 Family **Atopetholidae** Chamberlin, 1918 (14 genera, 45 species)
 Family **Floridobolidae** Keeton, 1959 (1 genus, 1 species)
 Family **Hoffmanobolidae** Shelley, 2001 (1 genus, 1 species)
 Family **Messicobolidae** Loomis, 1968 (3 genera, 25 species)
 Family **Pseudospirobolellidae** Brölemann, 1913 (2 genera, 4 species)
 Family **Rhinocricidae** Brölemann, 1913¹⁰ (16 genera, 110 species¹¹)
 Family **Spirobolellidae** Brölemann, 1913 (8 genera, 90 species)
 Family **Spirobolidae** Bollman, 1893¹² (6 genera, 22 species)
 Family **Typhlobolellidae** Hoffman, 1969 (5 genera, 6 species)
 Suborder **Trigoniulidea** Brölemann, 1913 (2 families)
 Family **Pachybolidae** Cook, 1897 (33 genera, 150? species)
 Family **Trigoniulidae** Attems, 1909¹³ (21 genera, 45 species)
 Order **Spirostreptida** Brandt, 1833¹⁴ (2 suborders)
 Suborder **Cambalidea** Cook, 1895¹⁵ (5 families)

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7. Genus and species estimates are especially difficult in this large family. An overly analytical approach to its classification has resulted in the naming of many subgenera (not included here in the generic count), up to 17 in the genus *Ommatoiulus*, most of which are monotypic. For several large genera, Hoffman (1980) was not able to estimate species numbers, so the number proposed here may be low.
 8. The number of genera and species in this family, which dominates the milliped fauna of North America, is uncertain at this writing. The species number in particular is probably much too low, but is based on names presently in the literature.
 9. Hoffman (1980) lists two genera of Spirobolida as being of uncertain familial status.
 10. Pitz & Sierwald (2010) found this family to be the sister to all other spirobolidans but did not establish any higher taxon for it.
 11. No accurate estimates of numbers are available for the 2 large genera *Eurhinocricus* and *Salpidobolus*.
 12. Pitz & Sierwald (2010), in a phylogenetic analysis of Spirobolida, found this family to be possibly paraphyletic
 13. According to Wesener (pers. comm. 2011) there are no characters that separate this family from Pachybolidae.
 14. Classification of the Spirostreptida is presently controversial. Some consider both suborders, plus a Suborder **Epinannolenoidea** (Families Choctellidae and Pseudonannolenidae) to be full orders. Others would include Cambalidea as a suborder of Julida, or at least argue for a position of a separate Order Cambalida near Julida. At present there are few compelling arguments for any suggested arrangement, so I follow tradition.

Family **Cambalidae** Bollman, 1893 (21 genera, 75? species)
 Family **Cambalopsidae** Cook 1895¹⁶ (10 genera, 80? species)
 Family **Choctellidae** Chamberlin and Hoffman, 1950¹⁷ (1 genus, 2 species)
 Family **Iulomorphidae** Verhoeff, 1924 (9 genera, 35 species)
 Family **Pseudonannolenidae** Silvestri, 1895¹⁸ (7 genera, 50? species)
 Suborder **Spirostreptidea** Brandt, 1833 (2 superfamilies)
 Superfamily **Odontopygoidea** Attems, 1909 (2 families)
 Family **Atopogestidae** Hoffman, 1980¹⁹ (1 genus, 1 species)
 Family **Odontopygidae** Attems, 1909²⁰ (40 genera, 335 species)
 Superfamily **Spirostreptoidea** Pocock, 1894 (3 families)
 Family **Adiaphorostreptidae** Hoffman, 1977 (1 genus, 1 species)
 Family **Harpagophoridae** Attems, 1909 (31 genera, 160 species)
 Family **Spirostreptidae** Brandt, 1833²¹ (61 genera, 275 species)
 Superorder **Nematophora** Verhoeff, 1913 (4 orders)
 Order **Callipodida** Pocock, 1894²² (3 suborders)
 Suborder **Callipodidea** Pocock, 1894 (1 family)
 Family **Callipodidae** Bollman, 1893 (2 genera, 5 species)
 Suborder **Schizopetalidea** Hoffman, 1973 (5 families)
 Family **Abacionidae** Shelley, 1979 (3 genera, 10 species)
 Family **Caspiopetalidae** Lohmander, 1931 (1 genus, 8 species)
 Family **Dorypetalidae** Verhoeff, 1900 (4 genera, 11 species)
 Family **Paracortinidae** Wang & Zhang, 1993 (2 genera, 11 species)
 Family **Schizopetalidae** Verhoeff 1909 (20 genera, 85 species)
 Suborder **Sinocallipodidea** Shear, 2000 (1 family)
 Family **Sinocallipodidae** Zhang, 1993 (1 genus, 5 species)
 Order **Chordeumatida** Pocock 1894²³ (4 suborders)
 Suborder **Chordeumatidea** Pocock 1894 (1 superfamily)
 Superfamily **Chordeumatoidea** C. L. Koch, 1847 (2 families)
 Family **Chordeumatidae** C. L. Koch, 1847 (5 genera, 21 species)
 Family **Speophilosomatidae** Takakuwa, 1949 (1 genus, 6 species)
 Suborder **Craspedosomatidea** Cook, 1895
 Superfamily **Anthroleucosomatidea** Verhoeff 1899 (4 families)
 Family **Anthroleucosomatidae** Verhoeff 1899 (7 genera, 15 species)
 Family **Haasiidae** Hoffman, 1980 (1 genus, 11 species)
 Family **Origmatogonidae** Verhoeff 1914 (3 genera, 5 species)
 Family **Vandeleumatidae** Mauriès, 1970 (3 genera, 8 species)
 Superfamily **Brannerioidea** Cook, 1896 (12 families)
 Family **Brachychaeteumatidae** Verhoeff, 1910 (3 genera, 13 species)
 Family **Branneriidae** Cook, 1896 (1 genus, 2 species)
 Family **Chaemosomatidae** Verhoeff, 1913 (2 genera, 8 species)

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15. Here I follow Jeekel (2004). The internal classification of this suborder (or order) is extremely chaotic. "...it is hard to find a major millipede taxon which has undergone so many changes in its internal classification since 1900 (Jeekel 2004, p. 45)." In the 5 years since the publication of that comment, more changes have taken place but they are not recounted here; Shelley (2003) tracked those up to 2002. Species counts, however, are based on Hoffman (1980) since Jeekel (2004) listed all names without evaluating their validity. Ongoing activity in Cambalopsidae is greatly increasing the numbers of species in that family.
 16. Includes **Glyphiulidae** Chamberlin, 1922, and **Pericambalidae** Silvestri, 1909, as listed by Shelley (2003).
 17. Hoffman (1980) and Shelley (2003) both place this family in a Suborder Epinannolenidea.
 18. Hoffman (1980) and Shelley (2003) both place this family in a Suborder Epinannolenidea.
 19. According to Mauriès (1997) the validity of this family is questionable, as the only specimen of the single species may be teratological or an intercalary (periodomorphotic) stage, but he did not formally synonymize it.
 20. The numbers of species in the large genus *Spinotarsus* cannot presently be estimated with any degree of accuracy. *Odontopyge*, once a very large genus, has been reduced to a few species but the residue of the genus as not been reassigned (Enghoff, pers. comm. 2011)
 21. The numbers of genera and species in Spirostreptidae are uncertain because the status of several generic names is as yet unclear.
 22. Arrangement follows Stoev, Sierwald & Billey 2008.
 23. The arrangement here follows Shear (2000) with a few changes and additions. Hoffman (1980) listed 8 chordeumatidan genera as being of uncertain family position.

- Family **Golovatchiidae** Shear, 1992 (1 genus, 1 species)
- Family **Heterolatzeliidae** Verhoeff 1899 (2 genera, 3 species)
- Family **Kashmireumatidae** Mauriès, 1982 (2 genera, 6 species)
- Family **Macrochaeteumatidae** Verhoeff, 1914 (2 genera, 2 species)
- Family **Microlympiidae** Shear & Leonard, 2003 (1 genus, 1 species)
- Family **Niponiosomatidae** Verhoeff, 1941 (2 genera, 3 species)
- Family **Tingupidae** Loomis, 1966 (3 genera, 10 species)
- Family **Trachygonidae** Cook, 1896 (3 genera, 3 species)
- Superfamily **Cleidogonoidea** Cook, 1896 (6 families)
 - Family **Biokoviellidae** Masic, 1992 (1 genus, 1 species)
 - Family **Cleidogonidae** Cook, 1896²⁴ (8 genera, 152 species)
 - Family **Entomobielziidae** Verhoeff, 1899 (1 genus, 2 species)
 - Family **Lusitaniosomatidae** Schubart, 1953 (1 genus, 1 species)
 - Family **Opisthocheiridae** Ribaut, 1913 (6 genera, 24 species)
 - Family **Trichopetalidae** Verhoeff, 1914 (6 genera, 40 species)
- Superfamily **Craspedosomatoidea** Gray in Jones, 1843 (3 families)
 - Family **Attemsiidae** Verhoeff, 1899 (16 genera, 24 species)
 - Family **Craspedosomatidae** Gray in Jones, 1843 (37 genera, 181 species)
 - Family **Haplobainosomatidae** Verhoeff, 1909 (4 genera, 7 species)
- Superfamily **Haaseoidea** Attems, 1899 (1 family)
 - Family **Haaseidae** Attems, 1899²⁵ (3 genera, 17 species)
- Superfamily **Neoatractosomatoidea** Verhoeff, 1901²⁶ (5 families)
 - Family **Altajellidae** Mikhaljova & Golovatch, 2001 (2 genera, 2 species)
 - Family **Cyrnosomatidae** Mauriès, 2003 (1 genus, 3 species)
 - Family **Faginidae** Attems, 1926²⁷ (1 genus, 1 species)
 - Family **Hoffmaneumatidae** Golovatch, 1978 (2 genera, 2 species)
 - Family **Mastigophorophyllidae** Verhoeff, 1899 (9 genera, 35 species)
 - Family **Neoatractosomatidae** Verhoeff, 1901 (9 genera, 12 species)
- Superfamily **Verhoeffioidea** Verhoeff, 1899 (1 family)
 - Family **Verhoeffiidae** Verhoeff, 1899 (1 genus, 4 species)
- Suborder **Heterochordeumatidea** Shear, 2000 (4 superfamilies)
 - Superfamily **Conotyloidea** Cook, 1896 (2 families)
 - Family **Adritylidae** Shear, 1971 (1 genus, 3 species)
 - Family **Conotylidae** Cook, 1896 (16 genera, 65 species)
 - Superfamily **Diplomaragnoidea** Attems, 1907 (1 family)
 - Family **Diplomaragnidae** Attems, 1907 (6 genera, 45 species)
 - Superfamily **Heterochordeumatidea** Pocock, 1894 (5 families)
 - Family **Eudigonidae** Verhoeff, 1914 (2 genera, 4 species)
 - Family **Heterochordeumatidae** Pocock, 1894 (2 genera, 5 species)
 - Family **Megalotylidae** Golovatch, 1978 (2 genera, 8 species)
 - Family **Metopidiotrichidae** Attems, 1907 (7 genera, 60 species)
 - Family **Peterjohnsiidae** Mauriès, 1987²⁸ (1 genus, 2 species)
 - Superfamily **Pygmaeosomatoidea** Carl, 1941 (2 families)
 - Family **Lankasomatidae** Mauriès 1978 (2 genera, 16 species)
 - Family **Pygmaeosomatidae** Carl, 1941 (1 genus, 2 species)
- Suborder **Striariidea** Cook, 1896 (2 superfamilies)
 - Superfamily **Caseyoidea** Verhoeff, 1909 (2 families)
 - Family **Caseyidae** Verhoeff, 1909 (7 genera, 45 species)

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24. Entomobielziidae and Lusitaniosomatidae are very likely synonyms of Cleidogonidae.
 25. Unfortunately the name of this family is nearly homonymous with that of the only distantly related Haasiidae Hoffman, 1980 (see above).
 26. Mauriès (2003) removes Altajellidae, Hoffmaneumatidae and Mastigophorophyllidae from Neoatractosomatoidea and places them in a new superfamily, **Mastigophorophylloidea** Verhoeff, 1899.
 27. A synonym of Neoatractosomatidae, according to Mauriès (2003).
 28. Placed here with some doubt by Shear (2000)

Family **Urochordeumatidae** Silvestri, 1909 (1 genus, 1 species)
 Superfamily **Striarioidea** Bollman, 1893 (3 families)
 Family **Apterouridae** Loomis, 1966 (1 genus, 2 species)
 Family **Buotidae** Shear, 2009 (1 genus, 1 species)
 Family **Rhiscosomididae** Silvestri, 1909 (1 genus, 8 species)
 Family **Striariidae** Bollman, 1893 (4 genera, 12 species)
 Order **Stemmiulida** Cook, 1895 (1 family)
 Family **Stemmiulidae** Pocock, 1894²⁹ (6 genera, 155 species)
 Order **Siphoniulida** Cook, 1895³⁰ (1 family), **NEW PLACEMENT**
 Family **Siphoniulidae** Pocock, 1894 (1 genus, 2 species)
 Superorder **Merochaeta** Cook, 1895³¹ (1 order)
 Order **Polydesmida** Pocock, 1887 (4 suborders)
 Suborder **Leptodesmidea** Brölemann, 1916 (5 superfamilies)
 Superfamily **Chelodesmoidea** Cook, 1895 (1 family)
 Family **Chelodesmidae** Cook, 1895 (230 genera, 450? species)
 Superfamily **Platyrhacoidea** Pocock, 1895 (2 families)
 Family **Aphelidesmidae** Brölemann, 1916³² (17 genera, 119 species)
 Family **Platyrhacidae** Pocock, 1895³³ (40 genera, 250? species)
 Superfamily **Rhachodesmoidea** Carl, 1903 (2 families)
 Family **Rhachodesmidae** Carl, 1903 (17 genera, 62 species)
 Family **Tridontomidae** Loomis & Hoffman, 1962 (2 genera, 4 species)
 Superfamily **Sphaeriodesmoidea** Humbert & DeSaussure, 1869 (3 families)
 Family **Campodesmidae** Cook, 1896 (1 genus, 8 species)
 Family **Holistophallidae** Silvestri, 1909 (7 genera, 11 species)
 Family **Sphaeriodesmidae** Humbert & DeSaussure, 1869 (14 genera, 85 species)
 Superfamily **Xystodesmoidea** Cook, 1895 (5 families)
 Family **Eurymerodesmidae** Causey, 1951 (1 genus, 30 species)
 Family **Euryuridae** Pocock, 1909 (2 genera, 15 species)
 Family **Gomphodesmidae** Cook, 1896³⁴ (54 genera, 146 species)
 Family **Oxydesmidae** Cook, 1895³⁵ (34 genera, 153 species)
 Family **Xystodesmidae** Cook, 1895 (56 genera, 465 species)
 Suborder **Dalodesmidea** Hoffman, 1980 (2 families)
 Family **Dalodesmidae** Cook, 1896 (55 genera, 250? species)
 Family **Vaalogonopodidae** Verhoeff, 1940 (3 genera, 8 species)
 Suborder **Strongylosomatidea** Brölemann, 1916 (1 family)
 Family **Paradoxosomatidae** Daday, 1889 (142 genera, 650? species)
 Suborder **Polydesmidea** Pocock, 1887³⁶ (2 infraorders)
 Infraorder **Oniscodesmoids** Simonsen, 1990 (2 superfamilies)
 Superfamily **Oniscodesmoidea** Simonsen, 1990
 Family **Dorsoporidae** Loomis, 1958 (1 genus, 1 species)
 Family **Oniscodesmidae** DeSaussure, 1860 (15 genera, 26 species)
 Superfamily **Pyrgodesmoidea** Silvestri, 1896 (3 families)
 Family **Ammodesmidae** Cook, 1896 (2 genera, 2 species)

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29. Mauriès & Golovatch (2006) and Mauriès, Golovatch & Geoffroy (2010) considered all stemmiulid genera except the monotypic *Scoliognus* and *Eostemmiulus* as synonyms of *Stemmiulus*, but this drastic change requires more argumentation before it can be accepted.
30. This order is placed here in Nematophora for the first time, based on male gonopod structure and the presence of spinnerets. Shelley (2003) listed it as *Helminthomorpha incertae sedis*.
31. Evidence is accumulating that Polydesmida is part of a clade that also encompasses Nematophora, and as such may not require a separate superordinal name, but Merochaeta is retained here until the relationships become clearer.
32. Genus and species counts provided by Richard Hoffman (pers. comm. 2011).
33. Species estimates are not available for the large genera *Platyrhacus* and *Barydesmus*.
34. Genus and species counts from the monograph by Hoffman (2005).
35. Genus and species counts from the monograph by Hoffman (1990).
36. Hoffman (1980) listed 28 genera in this suborder which cannot be placed as to family. Four family-group names have been based on genera on this list: **Atopodigonidae** Verhoeff, 1941, **Comodesmidae** Cook, 1896, **Enellissominae** Verhoeff, 1939, and **Hynidesmidae** Cook, 1896.

Family **Cyrtodesmidae** Cook, 1896 (3 genera, 30 species)
 Family **Pyrgodesmidae** Silvestri, 1896³⁷ (162 genera, 210 species)
 Infraorder **Polydesmoides** Pocock, 1887 (4 superfamilies)
 Superfamily **Haplodesmoidea** Cook, 1895 (1 family)
 Family **Haplodesmidae** Cook, 1895³⁸ (6 genera, 30 species)
 Superfamily **Opisotretioidea** Hoffman, 1980 (1 family)
 Family **Opisotretidae** Hoffman, 1980 (6 genera, 8 species)
 Superfamily **Polydesmoidea** Leach, 1815 (2 families)
 Family **Cryptodesmidae** Karsch, 1880 (38 genera, 125 species)
 Family **Polydesmidae** Leach, 1815³⁹ (27 genera, 235? species)
 Superfamily **Trichopolydesmoidea** Verhoeff 1910⁴⁰ (4 families)
 Family **Fuhrmannodesmidae** Brölemann, 1916 (55 genera⁴¹, 80? species)
 Family **Macrosternodesmidae** Brölemann 1916, (6 genera, 18 species)
 Family **Nearctodesmidae** Chamberlin & Hoffman, 1958⁴² (8 genera, 30 species)

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Contributor name & address

William Shear, Department of Biology, Hampden-Sydney College, Hampden-Sydney, VA 23943, USA; wshear@hsc.edu

37. This family contains about 120 monotypic genera.

38. Golovatch *et al.* (2009) synonymized **Doratodesmidae** Cook, 1896, with this family.

39. The species number may not be accurate because Hoffman (1980) did not tally the species for the large genus *Polydesmus*. *Polydesmus* has 26 subgenera, some of which should be regarded as synonyms and some of which may be valid full genera.

40. Hoffman (1980) lists 5 genera in this superfamily of uncertain familial assignment; however, since then 4 of them have been placed.

41. Thirty-nine of the 55 genera in this family are monotypic. The family as a whole has been used as a “dumping-ground” for unrelated, small, tropical trichopolydesmoids.

42. Often considered a synonym of Macrosternodesmidae.